



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/763,072	01/21/2004	Robert F. Sheppard	200901410-1	3704
22879	7590	05/17/2011		
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY			EXAMINER	
Intellectual Property Administration			KARDOS, NEIL R	
3404 E. Harmony Road			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
Mail Stop 35			3623	
FORT COLLINS, CO 80528				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/17/2011		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM

ipa.mail@hp.com

laura.m.clark@hp.com

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/763,072	SHEPPARD, ROBERT F.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Neil R. Kardos	3623	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 15 April 2011 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
 - (a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 - (c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).

5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.

6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: _____.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).

9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).

10. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.

12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____

13. Other: _____.

/Jonathan G. Sterrett/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3623

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: In order to properly swear behind a reference and establish prior invention, Applicant must present facts sufficient to show (1) actual reduction to practice of the invention prior to the effective date of the reference, (2) conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the reference coupled with due diligence prior to the reference date to a subsequent actual reduction to practice, or (3) conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the reference coupled with due diligence from prior to the reference date to the filing date of the application (constructive reduction to practice). See MPEP 715.07(III).

In this case, Applicant has not shown facts sufficient to meet any of these three requirements.

Applicant has not shown (1) (above) because Applicant has not shown that the invention was built and/or practiced and that it worked for its intended purpose (i.e. actual reduction to practice). See MPEP 2138.05(II) for an explanation of the requirements to establish actual reduction to practice.

Applicant has not shown (2) or (3) (above) because, while Applicant has shown evidence sufficient to establish conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the reference, Applicant has not shown sufficient evidence of diligence up to actual reduction to practice or the filing date of the application. Applicant has merely alleged diligence in the affidavit with insufficient evidence of facts to establish diligence. See MPEP 715.07(a) and 2138.06 for an explanation of the requirements to establish due diligence. Due diligence requires affirmative acts or acceptable excuses for the entire period in question. Here, there is evidence that the diligence period began on 12/17/2003 (Exhibit A), and ended on 1/21/2004 (Exhibit D, and the filing date of the application for constructive reduction to practice). However, there is insufficient evidence of affirmative acts or acceptable excuses for the entire period between these dates. See MPEP 2138.06. Diligence requires that applicants must be specific as to dates and facts. See id.

Furthermore, this case presents both issues of applicant diligence and attorney diligence. Insufficient evidence has been presented to show diligence on the part of both of these parties. It has been held that six days to execute and file an application is acceptable. See MPEP 2138.06. However, in the present case there is a period of more than a month of unaccounted activity, from 12/17/2003 until 1/20/2004.

For the above reasons, the affidavit is insufficient to swear behind the reference and overcome the rejection. The rejection set forth in the final Office Action is maintained.